

implemented immediately after finalisation with the other concerned Departments

Facilities to private Hotels in Goa

5120 SHRI HARISH NARYAN PRABHUZANTYE Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether a number of private hotels along with their locations with investment of over rupees fifty lakhs have come up in Goa for the last three years

(b) whether any facility or financial assistance has been provided to them by the Union Government, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Financial assistance is given by the financial institutions. The Government gives interest subsidy to approved hotel projects on loans granted by IFCI, IFCI and State Financial Corporations. The interest subsidy of 3 per cent is given for 1-3 star hotel projects on entire loans amount and 1 per cent for 4 and 5 star hotel projects up to a maximum loan amount of Rs. 75 lakhs. In addition various incentives/concessions are also given to hotel projects and functioning hotels.

[Translation]

Mineral exploration Corporation Limited

5121 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited is running in loss,

(b) if so, the details of losses during the last three years and reasons therefor,

(c) whether the Government propose to constitute a committee to go into the working of the Corporation,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, the steps the Government propose to take to make it viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) and (b) The Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) which was earning profits till the year 1989-90 has incurred a loss of Rs. 329 lakhs during 1990-91. Inadequate availability of drilling/mining work, and higher costs of staff, operations and overheads were the main reasons for the loss.

(c) There is no proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government have asked MECL to secure more exploration work from its client organisations and reduce its operational expenditure.

[English]

Production of steel

5122 SHRI R. DHANUSKO DIATHITHAN Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) the total production of steel at present,

(b) the name of the largest producer of steel;

(c) the quantum of steel exported during 1989,

(d) whether the export has increased in subsequent years, and

(e) if so, the details thereof, year wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Total production of finished steel during the year 1991-92 is estimated at about 14.55 million tonnes

(b) The Steel Authority of India is the largest producer of steel in the country

(c) The quantum of mild steel exported by the main producers in 1989-90 (April-March) was 2.99 lakh tonnes

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) During the year 1990-91 export by the main producers was 3.11 lakh tonnes. In 1991-92 (upto January, 1992), it has been 2.82 lakh tonnes

Post Offices in Villages, Maharashtra

5123 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the number of villages in Maharashtra without post offices as on the January 31, 1992 and

(b) the steps taken to by the Government to provide this facility?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MIN

ISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) As on January 31, 1992, there are a total of 25224 villages without post offices in Maharashtra State

(b) While the existing postal network of the State caters to the requirements of the entire State, new post offices are opened from time to time under the Annual Plans in order to augment the postal infrastructure so as to provide better services to customers. 104 extra departmental post offices have so far been sanctioned in Maharashtra during the current financial year

Availability of Electricity in the country

5124 SHRIMATIVASUNDHARARAJE Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the total availability of Electricity in the country as on February 29, 1992,

(b) whether power generation position has improved in some States as compared to the same period in 1991,

(c) if so, the States where it has been improved, and

(d) the position in other states in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATHRAI) (a) to (d) State-wise total availability of power in the Country during April, 1990- February, 1991 and April 91-Feb., 92 is given in Statement